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Gov't proposes 6-8% second-stage pullback

By JAY BUSHNYSKY and HILLEL KUTTNER Israel's proposal that the second troop withdrawal required by the Oslo Accords transfer another six percent to eight percent of the West Bank to the Palestinian Authority will be presented today to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Netanyahu's policy adviser Uzi Arad will travel to Cairo to try to obtain Egypt's endorsement, so that Mubarak can persuade the Palestinians to accept the plan. Upon completion of the second redeployment, as proposed by Netanyahu and his ministers, the PA would control 35%-37% of the West Bank, he said.

Bank should be transferred to the PA by the time the parties approach final-status talks, the official said. The PA adheres to the original Oslo timetable, while Israel contends that intervening acts of terrorism delayed implementation.

special Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross, who reported that "whatever it is, the number would be a serious proposal."

Unemployment rises to 8.1%

By DAVID HARRIS Unemployment reached an average 8.1 percent, or 179,000 people, during the third quarter of the year, the highest jobless total since April 1994, according to data the Central Bureau of Statistics published yesterday.

Lieberman faces indictment for fraud

Dismisses report of police recommendations as 'nonsense'

By SARAH HONG, HERB KEINON, and MICHAL YUDELMAN

The police have recommended that Avigdor Lieberman, who resigned as director-general of the Prime Minister's Office on Sunday, be indicted for fraud and theft. The charges relate to his activities as head of Gesher Aliya, a non-profit organization he headed in the early 1990s.



Avigdor Lieberman speaks to the press yesterday.

Lieberman attacks 'disloyal' Likud, Page 2

to the same organization for NIS 20,000 more than the book price. The affair was originally revealed by Yediot Aharonot, and police began an investigation several months ago. Lieberman had been questioned under caution.

Low tech's dying gasps

Considering that between 1987 and 1992 unemployment rose from 6 percent to 11%, and that by 1996 joblessness plummeted to just under 5%, yesterday's data clearly indicates a trend reversal which calls for macroeconomic introspection.

BACKGROUND

First, most of today's unemployed are unskilled refugees from the country's once labor-intensive, low-tech industries. While labor bureaus handle people who once manned lengthy conveyor belts where they would stitch pants, assemble mortars, or pack sardines into cans, high-tech parks across the country are thirsting for personnel. In other words, while technology companies sprouted here at a pace of roughly one every 36 hours and consequently catapulted high-tech's share in industrial output to nearly 70%, low tech has been marginalized.

PA judge detained in sheikh's slaying

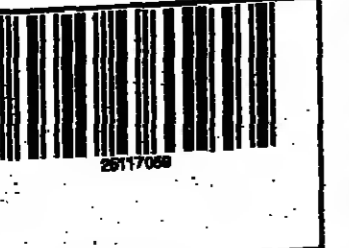
By STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED HAJAR A Palestinian judge, regarded as close to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, is being held in a Jericho prison on allegations he killed an Islamic cleric, Palestinian sources said yesterday. PA officials are examining the possibility of deporting the suspect to Jordan, a security official said.

Pollard to Edelman: Bring me home

By MARILYN HENRY NEW YORK - In an historic meeting yesterday, convicted spy Jonathan Pollard asked Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein to persuade Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak to jointly and publicly call for his release.

Earlier yesterday, in his first press conference since resigning, Lieberman accused Likud ministers of having "plotted a political coup against Netanyahu while he was abroad last week."

on those in the Likud he charged with disloyalty. Most of them declined to comment last night. He will demand that the party inquiry committee focus its attention on the near-coup, Lieberman said.



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See POLLARD, Page 8

1997 The Jerusalem Post... ch time... ropean... efuls... and sneak a shock home... the Indians on Wednesday... would be home and dry if they... Kosice as expected.

NEWS in brief

Barak says he would form gov't with Likud
Labor Party leader Ehud Barak said yesterday that if he were elected prime minister he would form a broad-based "unity government" with the Likud.

Norway: Probe Mossad in botched killing
Norway has asked Israel to interrogate Mike Harari, an ex-Mossad operative suspected of leading a team of assassins who shot and killed an innocent Moroccan waiter, Ahmed Bouchikhi, in Lillehammer in July 1973.

Demonstrations erupt against PA
Demonstrations against Palestinian Authority policies on university fees and Hamas prisoners erupted in several towns in the West Bank yesterday.

Panel to select chief rabbis picked
The Knesset yesterday, in a secret vote, chose five MKs to sit on the body which selects the chief rabbis.

US wants Israel in UN regional group
The US, in a move welcomed by Israel, has urged the UN's Western European and Others regional group to grant temporary membership to Israel.

Three gunmen killed in Lebanon
Shahak: Syria is studying IDF

Israeli forces have killed between seven and 13 Amal and Hizbullah gunmen in south Lebanon in the past four days, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak said yesterday, adding that the Syrians were closely watching Israeli tactics in the guerrilla war.

interest at the way the IDF is fighting in Lebanon and are trying to learn from it," Shahak said yesterday at a lecture at Tel Aviv University marking the sixteenth anniversary of the death of Moshe Dayan.

Levy alerts French FM to Lebanese danger

Foreign Minister David Levy yesterday alerted visiting French Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine to the danger that the ongoing hostilities in southern Lebanon could get out of control and threaten regional stability.



French Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine (right) walks down Jerusalem's Ben-Yehuda street yesterday with Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert.

Palestinians, Vedrine said he did not bring any document. Vedrine contended that while Hamas and Islamic Jihad posed a problem to the Palestinians the dynamism of peacemaking would weaken them.

Katz accuses Likud rebels of conspiracy against PM

Likud convention chairman Yisrael Katz yesterday charged the Likud rebels with conspiring against Prime Minister Netanyahu, and demanded an investigation into who was behind "the attempt to destroy the Likud."

Lieberman gave a long, programmatic speech, biding an audience which was expecting something juicy. The only time he managed to revive the crowd was when he took a swipe at Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak.

The American dream - Russian style

"Avigdor Lieberman is the Russian version of the American dream," said Alex Lebduinsky, an immigrant from Tashkent who owns a tire repair shop on the Jerusalem-Jericho road.

expected anything from him," said Lebduinsky. "By the same token, I would now vote for Lieberman. The more the Israelis hate him, the more I love him. I can identify with what he is up against."

Stem said. Stern said that as long as Lieberman stays in the Likud, there is no real danger that he will draw voters from Yisrael Ba'alya because "immigrants understand the Likud has done nothing for us."

Lieberman on Likud MKs

Avigdor Lieberman yesterday unleashed stinging attacks on those in the Likud he charged with disloyalty. The following is a summary of his main targets and how they were criticized:

Livnat to hold crucial meeting with Netanyahu

The fate of the Likud's in-house uprising against Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu might be sealed today when Netanyahu again confers with Communications Minister Limor Livnat.

PM: We will not abandon the Gush

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu promised yesterday to further develop Gush Etzion, pledging "we will never again abandon" the area.



Limor Livnat

Advertisement for Kleiner: We'll Netanyahu if... with various text elements and logos.

Handwritten text in Arabic: مكان من التجميل



Clean sailing: JNF Director Moshe Rivlin (left), Hadera Mayor Nehemia Lahav (second from left) and Environment Ministry Director-General Nehama Ronen go for a ride yesterday at the inauguration of a park in Hadera. The JNF invested NIS 30 million and four years of work in converting the Hadera River from an ecological problem into a recreation site. (Ariel Jerusalem)

Kleiner: We'll bring down Netanyahu if he redeploys

By LIAT COLLINS

MK Michael Kleiner (Geshet-Likud), head of the Land of Israel Front caucus, yesterday warned Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu against giving in to what he described as US demands on further redeployment. At the end of a stormy four-hour meeting, the caucus stated it would topple the government if it decided to hand over additional territories to the PA.

is really chutzpa to demand the prime minister of Israel go against his platform and endanger the security of the State of Israel by giving away lands crucial to the defense of the country under an agreement in which we get nothing while the Palestinians continue to violate it in every way.

Third Way whip Yehuda Harel said his party supports a large redeployment, which is in keeping with the Third Way's idea of "peacefully separating from the Palestinians." The Third Way is continuing to push for a national unity government.

Netanyahu testifies on Mashaal Affair

By LIAT COLLINS

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday gave evidence to the Knesset subcommittee on secret services, which is investigating the Mashaal Affair alongside the Ciechanover clarification committee.

of the House of Commons, then known as Greville Janner, referred to works of art stolen by the Nazis from their Jewish owners and then confiscated by the Red Army as it advanced to Berlin.

The committee hopes to issue a concluding statement at the end of its discussions which will be acceptable to all six members. It has apparently not found any major discrepancies in the different statements presented and is focusing on two main aspects: the operational issues involved in the affair in Amman and the decision-making process which preceded it.

Netanyahu's appearance, and the MKs were acutely aware that the main story was not taking place in the House at all. Shortly before 1 p.m., MK Gideon Ezra suggested ending the discussions so that the committee members could listen to the live broadcast of the press conference with Avigdor Lieberman, who resigned as director-general of the Prime Minister's Office.

Labor welcomes Yehezkel back after acquittal

By LIAT COLLINS

Avi Yehezkel received a hero's welcome at yesterday's Labor Knesset faction meeting, but soon rebuked his colleagues for displaying their affection for him only after he was fully acquitted.

party must learn that we need to show each other friendship." Most of the meeting was devoted to a discussion on immigrant absorption, initiated by MK Sofa Landver. Landver said the Russian immigrants "have joined the list of those disappointed in [Prime Minister Binyamin] Netanyahu" following the resignation of Avigdor Lieberman.

would become the political home of new immigrants. "One shouldn't forget that there are another two to three million Jews who should be brought to Israel," said Shimon Peres.

At the end of the meeting, the faction issued a statement on absorption issues. The party said it considers the integration of immigrants from all countries of utmost importance; promised a Labor-led government would try to find solutions to immigrants' housing and employment problems; and recommends integration of them in Labor Party institutions and the Histadrut.

Health Ministry cracks down on scam

By JUDY SEGEL

The Health Ministry said yesterday it was organizing a campaign to permit cancellation of membership in a health fund in cases where the subscriber was tricked into joining.

times by promising gifts - into signing forms to switch their health fund membership. In some cases, signatures have been forged without the individual being made aware that he is switching funds.

Rubin-Jabotinsky, the Health Ministry's ombudsman, at POB 1176, Jerusalem, 91010, or fax (02) 6714308.

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

Stepping down

The resignation of Prime Minister's Office Director-General Avigdor Lieberman "is the beginning of the collapse of the Netanyahu government," claims Ma'ariv's Shalom Kadmon. "Bibi without Yvet is like an Yvet without Bibi; Bibi without Yvet is like an airless balloon."

significance of amnesty as an institution, while noting that the measure can be exploited for the sake of freeing public figures from jail. "We must not spill the amnesty baby with the squalid bath water of politics," he writes, "what we should do is ask the politicians to leave this issue alone, in order to avoid bringing damage to this significant and humane institution."

November 29 "It is likely that in the days leading up to the November 29," the

50th anniversary of the UN decision to partition Palestine, leading to the birth of a Jewish state, "Hizbullah and Amal... will accelerate their actions," writes Ma'ariv's Yosef Lapid in response to the latest violence in Lebanon, which claimed the lives of eight Lebanese citizens.

Shaky ties

Prime Minister Netanyahu's visit to Britain and the US has also prompted some analysis of Israeli ties with the international community.

THE LIFE OF A JUNKMAN Never boring, always adventuresome as we follow his successes and failures. Avoid laughter and tears, join YEHEZKEL CHARLES JERRY MINK as he relates his experiences from the early years growing up in New York, his decision to make aliyah from Long Island, then onto Tel Aviv-Ashdod-Yerushalayim and finally Old City Jerusalem.

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS! If you're looking for an inexpensive and effective way to reach Israel's religious public and tourists before Hanukka, advertise in the next issue of Ba'kehila - the only national, English-language magazine for the religious community - which will appear with The Jerusalem Post on December 12, 1997 and The Jerusalem Post International Edition on December 15, 1997.

Janner: World must open files on Nazi gold

By JAY BUSHINSKY

The nations of the world must open their archives and enable the international community to find out how much gold the Nazis looted from their respective treasuries as well as from their doomed Jewish communities, Lord Janner of Braunstone said yesterday with respect to the Nazi gold conference opening in London next Tuesday.

He spoke to a World Jewish Congress gathering here which was attended by several ambassadors whose countries are directly interested in this issue, among them Switzerland, Great Britain and Portugal.

about the movement of Nazi gold to Switzerland and other neutral states - Sweden, Spain, Portugal and Turkey. "This is not purely a Swiss problem," Janner said.

1997 The Jerusalem Post... IDF... sponded a squad of gunmen... the area, the IDF spokesman... the squad and killing... three of the gunmen... At the same time, another... zone's western sector, as well... a village in the area, without... any injuries or damage... The exchanges, which... around 5 a.m., continued... antitank missile and light... fire at IDF and SLA positions... one of the incidents, Ben... lags again came under fire... resident was wounded... danger... sian styl... PM: We will not abandon the Gush... will not abandon the Gush... will not abandon the Gush...

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NEWS

in brief

IMA sanctions shut clinics and operating rooms

Outpatient clinics and diagnostic institutes in public hospitals from Petah Tikva northward (except for Lanjado in Netanya) will be closed today, while operating rooms south of Petah Tikva will perform only emergency operations.

Pinochet visit draws fire

The local Simon Wiesenthal Center on Sunday called for the cancellation of the prospective visit of former Chilean president Augusto Pinochet because of his refusal to hand over Nazi war criminal Walter Rauff to Germany where he was to have been put on trial.

Poraz petitions Court against ETV appointment

MK Avraham Poraz (Shinui-Meretz) yesterday petitioned the High Court of Justice against Education Minister Zevulun Hammer's appointing Moti Sikler to head Educational TV without issuing a tender.

Hungary to launch Israeli-produced satellite

The successful launch earlier this year of the Amos communications satellite has made it possible for Hungary to commission the launch of its own satellite, an Amos-clone called MagyarSat, which will be produced by Israel Aircraft Industries.

Weather service won't be privatized

Transport Ministry Director-General Nahum Langenthal decided yesterday not to privatize the Meteorological Services in Beit Dagan. At a meeting of the Knesset Science and Technology Committee, headed by Dalia Itzik, Langenthal said he was persuaded that privatization of the weather services except for aviation forecasts and other functions - is not a good idea.

Airport not ready for year 2000

Ben-Gurion Airport is equipped to handle fewer than 2.5 million foreign visitors a year, but some 4 million are expected in 2000, the committee responsible for the "Israel 2000" program said at a press conference yesterday.

The program, a cooperative effort by the Treasury and the Ministry of Tourism, was initiated to suggest solutions for problems presented by the expected arrival of millions of pilgrims and other visitors for the millennium.

Jerusalem's Old City, in Nazareth, and at sites along the northern Kinneret, all Christian tourist attractions. It also noted the lack of facilities, including security arrangements, at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and other churches.

The committee, which presented its report to Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav, recommended that at crowded sites, the infrastructure - such as parking facilities and access paths - be increased and visit-

ing hours be extended. It also suggested that urban bed-and-breakfasts and nearby kibbutzim be used to alleviate an expected shortage of hotel rooms, especially in Jerusalem and the Kinneret.

Peled to meet Maccabiah victims in Australia

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Deputy Education Minister Moshe Peled has agreed to President Ezer Weizman's request to head a delegation of Israeli officials which will meet with victims of the Maccabiah bridge disaster in Australia.

number of Australian Jewish youngsters coming to Israel to visit. The condition of Sasha Elterman, the young tennis player injured in the accident who has been in extremely serious condition, continues to improve.



Moshe Peled (Ariel Jerusalem)

A spokesman for Peled said last night that he would travel to Australia during December as the head of a delegation which would likely include a representative from the President's Office, a Foreign Ministry representative and perhaps a police official as well.

MKs oppose general amnesty

By LIAT COLLINS

Several MKs yesterday noted their opposition to the idea of a general amnesty for the state's 50th anniversary. Law Committee chairman Shaul Yahalom (National Religious Party) reiterated his opposition to a sweeping amnesty.

to start placing emphasizing the successful rehabilitation of offenders.

He also said that it is "unfair, uneducational, and against society's best interests to release those who are mainly white-collar offenders."

He said there is no reason to replace the current parole boards which check each case individually, and if new committees are established for a general amnesty, they will be put under considerable pressure by interested groups.

Alex Lubotzky (Third Way) said his party objects to the amnesty proposal and sees the president as the only authority able to grant amnesty. Lubotzky, however, said an independent, balanced public body could be established to recommend the president grant individual pardons to certain offenders.

Branover urged to run for president

By HERS KENON

Ben-Gurion University Prof. Yirmiyahu Branover is being touted by the Jewish Leadership Movement as a possible candidate to challenge Ezer Weizman in next year's presidential election in the Knesset.

Professionals from the CIS, and a long-time activist on immigrant affairs, confirmed that he was approached about the matter. "I am honored by the suggestion, and it is something that should be considered," Branover said.



Yirmiyahu Branover (Willy Peled)

ing leadership with a "distinctly Jewish" outlook that could appeal both to the political Right and Left. The group, whose leadership is decidedly right-wing, is planning to hold a meeting in the near future to draw up plans on how to push Branover's candidacy. The movement is also considering drafting a candidate to run for prime minister.

Where to stay in Israel

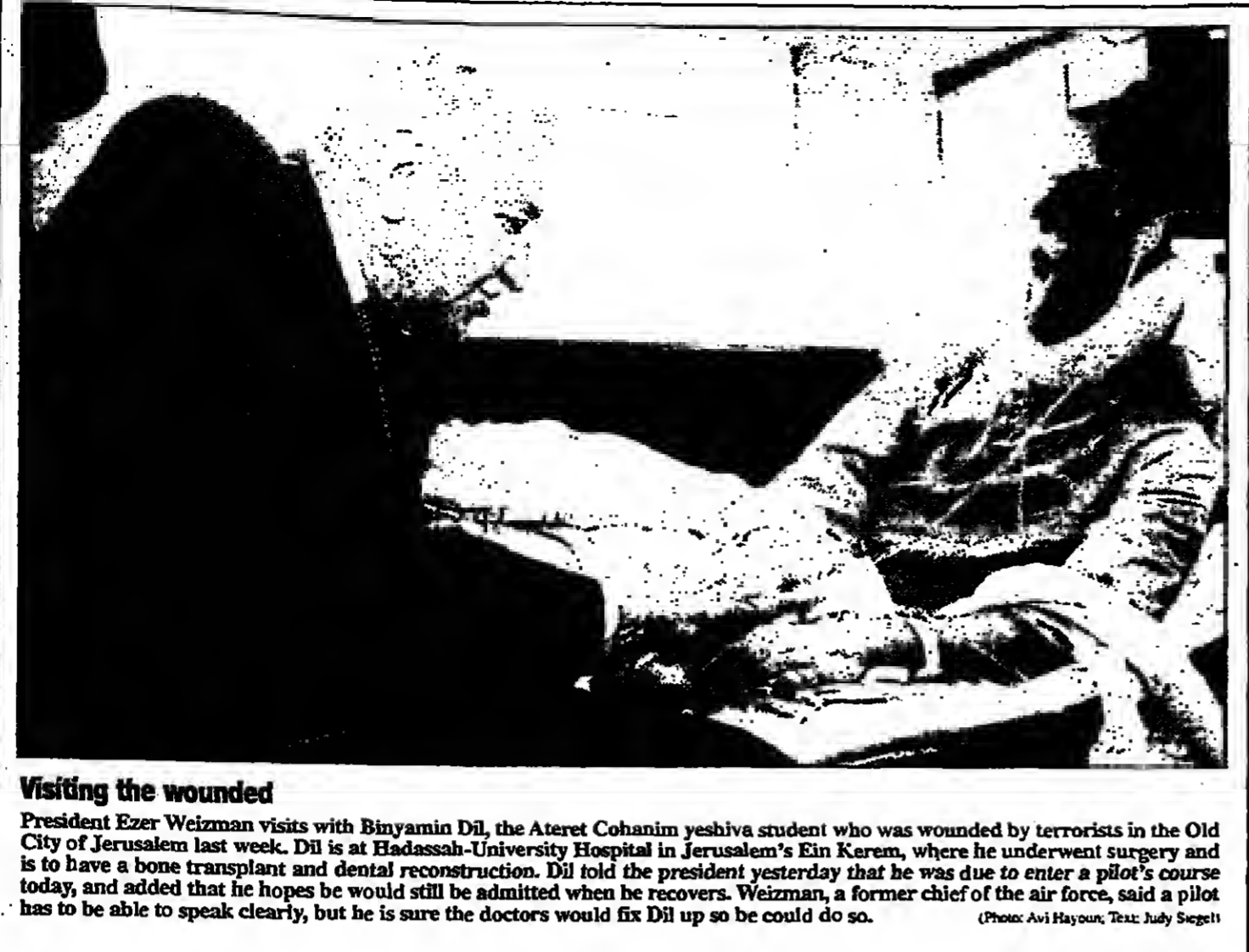
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טקס מן הארץ



Visiting the wounded

President Ezer Weizman visits with Binyamin Dil, the Ateret Cohanin yeshiva student who was wounded by terrorists in the Old City of Jerusalem last week...

Court upholds right to try mutineers

Finding that the rebellion staged at Military Prison No. 6 was an 'intolerable' affront to army discipline, the Supreme Court ruled yesterday that the IDF is entitled to try the troops involved.

Knesset hears conflicting sounds of Oriental music

Dissonant tones about the state of Oriental music in Israel today were heard during yesterday's Knesset Education Committee meeting on the subject.

Government to review recommendations for minimum sentences for sex offenders

The government will respond within two months to recommendations made yesterday by a commission the Justice Ministry appointed to look into whether minimum sentences should be set for sex crimes and domestic violence...

MKs: Give gas masks to tourists and foreign workers

Deputy Defense Minister Silvan Shalom told the Knesset State Control Committee yesterday that foreign workers and tourists should be given gas masks...

Day of protest
Local women's groups are joining their counterparts around the world today to demand an end to domestic violence.

Shas: Remove Dana International from Eurovision Song Contest

Shas MK Shlomo Benizri is demanding that Dana International, the popular transsexual singer, be removed as Israel's representative for next year's Eurovision Contest.



Dana International

All You Should Know About Jerusalem

Advertisement for 'Who? Jerusalem Jerusalem' book, featuring a cover image and promotional text about the city's history and culture.

Where to eat in Israel

- List of restaurant advertisements including: EILAT (Tandoori Indian Restaurant), HEZLILYA PITUAH, ATLANTIS FISH & SEA FOOD RESTAURANT, JERUSALEM (ANGELO RISTORANTE ITALIANO), BIRD OF PARADISE, ESHEL AVRAHAM AVINU, EUCALYPTUS, HECHAL SHLOMO, KOHINOR KOEHER, LITTLE JERUSALEM, NORMAN'S STEAK'N BURGER, PEPA & MELA, RESTAURANT MISHKENOT SHAANANIM.

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The cabinet approve the...
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Needed: Consumer consciousness

Back in the days of stratospheric inflation in Israel, supermarket chains faced the problem of updating the price labels on their products on an almost daily basis in order to stay in business.

in other countries easily manage to overcome the great difficulties they claim exist in affixing price labels on shelf items. The issue of price labels in grocery stores brings to mind another file currently crossing Sharansky's desk: the misleading advertising campaign of Bezeq International.

Inflation has long since been brought under control, but supermarkets and grocery stores have maintained the habit of not affixing price labels. They continue doing so even in the face of a law, dating from 1991, requiring clear price labels on most merchandise.

This had just the effect Bezeq was hoping for - many assumed the lower prices applied universally and were then stunned at the size of the bills they received. Minutes of meetings of the Bezeq board of directors which have been made public reveal that they had the callous audacity to openly speak about their aim to dupe the public.

The result is that prices can be quietly raised without consumer notice. The producers and the supermarkets obviously like this arrangement. It is the customer who literally bears the cost.

The connection between the two cases is the manifest intention to fool the customer. Business in Israel is often characterized by a conception that success depends on outsmarting everyone else. This may be the right attitude in high-tech industries, where inventing clever new gadgets before everyone else is critical.

The Ministry of Industry and Trade has now stepped forward to protect consumers, proposing to stiffen laws requiring honest price labels on each individual item, and to enforce them properly. Minister Natan Sharansky has gone on record as being determined "to go all the way" on this issue, for the sake of increasing competition and lowering prices.

Sharansky and his staff, as well as a handful of MKs, civil servants, and lobbyists, are doing a commendable job of making efforts to protect the consumer. But those efforts and the laws and directives which they produce cannot alone spark true consumerism. What is needed is greater effort on the part of consumers themselves. The few consumer-interest groups which do exist here are sadly ineffectual. There is nothing like the sort of consumer advocacy run by Ralph Nader in the US.

Unfortunately for the supermarket chains, he intends to supplement his local research on the subject with on-site visits to food outlets in England and Belgium. Local merchants will be hard pressed to explain how their counterparts

in an important part of the transition to a modern open economy. It is high time that strong, self-confident consumer advocacy emerge in Israel. Otherwise we will continue to be fooled at the cash register again and again.



Netanyahu is right

The majority of Israeli Jews voted to reject the program pursued by the Left. The program called the Oslo Accord. It was the main issue in the last election and the sponsors of Oslo lost.

CHAIM SEIDEN is acceptable to them. If he created a Palestinian state tomorrow, they would still be down on him. They seek to nullify the results of the democratic process through which Netanyahu was directly elected.

Jews while the peace talks were in progress, the media and the political opposition did not close ranks with the elected government of Israel, they blamed it all on Netanyahu. They "understood" Arab behavior in the light of Netanyahu's policies.

Regarding the other issue that has occupied the media of late, the conversion bill, few Israelis have taken a real interest in it. The fact is the majority of Israelis have no interest in Reform or Conservative Judaism. Though both have been available in Israel for many years, very few Israelis have "voted" for Reform or Conservative Judaism by joining their ranks.

THE first attack on Netanyahu Thus far, one cannot fault Netanyahu where policy is concerned took place the day he took office. Incredible as it sounds, the media began by focusing on why he dismissed his children's nanny. He and his wife were presented as cruel and irrational employers.

While constructive criticism always has its place, the duplicity employed to humiliate the prime minister has gone beyond the boundaries of decent behavior. Representing Israel's interests is not made easier when the leftist opposition and journalist fraternity attack Netanyahu in foreign media and behind his back in private discussions with foreign leaders.

He is translating the will of the majority into public policy. Thus far, one cannot fault Netanyahu where policy is concerned. Disagree yes, but within the bound of respectful debate. After all, the Left made some dreadful mistakes while in office like arming the Palestinians and establishing sanctuaries for terrorists.

As long as Netanyahu follows the mandate given him by the electorate, the public will support him because the Israeli public is more mature than the media elite. The man-in-the-street is not interested in being "popular" with his foreign friends or with his enemy.

Hopefully the time will come when the media and the Left will come to terms with the fact that the path to political power is through the electorate, and not by detroning the elected leader through the courts or the media.

The reason lies deeper than policy alone. The Left and its closely associated journalistic fraternity see Netanyahu as an outsider. "He is not one of us," they say. This has focused their energy totally. There is simply nothing that Netanyahu can do or say that

When, as a result, Arabs murdered Jews with weapons given them by the previous leftist government, and when they blew up

The persistent and indiscriminate demand to remove the prime minister reflects an arrogance toward the Israeli voter and the democratic process. It also places partisan interests above that of the nation. The writer is the director of the Center for Political Policy.

Business is not as usual

SUSAN HATTIS ROLEF

All those who criticized Foreign Minister David Levy for deciding not to participate in the Doha Conference last week were wrong.

The Doha Conference was the fourth of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) economic conferences to have been scheduled since October 1994. These conferences were designed to symbolize the changing reality in Arab-Israeli economic relations - "From Boycott to Cooperation," as the title of a soon-to-be book by Dr. Gil Felner succinctly sums it up. They reflected a reality which began to emerge in the aftermath of the 1991 Madrid Conference, and accelerated by the signing of the Declaration of Principles with the Palestinians in 1993, the 1994 peace treaty with Jordan and the real progress in negotiations with Syria, on the basis of the territories for peace formula, over the course of 1995.

But, unfortunately, though we have not returned to the pre-Madrid political and economic reality, one does not have to be an especially astute observer to notice that the peace process has not only ceased to advance but is in retreat. Thus, the Doha Conference and Israel's participation therein, is reminiscent of the man who is still legally married, even though he long ago left his wife, and whose continued marriage is nothing but a fiction, designed to make him look "respectable" in social circles that still consider divorce a stain on one's reputation, and to help him avoid confronting the full consequences of his decision.

His decision to leave his wife may have been perfectly justified and legitimate, just as the policy of the current Israeli government may be justified and legitimate in the eyes of those who really and truly believe the policy of the previous government to have been wrong and dangerous. What is not justified and legitimate is the pretence of "business as usual."

The Doha Conference is likely to be the last MENA economic conference

Irrespective of what David Levy feels about the peace process - and deep in his heart he might well accept the fact that the only road to peace is that propagated by Labor - he was right to avoid going to Doha. Would he have added any honor to himself or Israel had he been personally present to bear everyone, including US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, criticize Israeli foreign policy, policy in which he seems to have no say?

IT was also wrong for all those Labor-supporting Israeli businessmen, who know that business is anything but "usual" these days, to travel to Doha and take part in the make-believe. Many of them still manage to do good business in the Arab world, discreetly and covertly. Why should an Israeli businessman - especially one whose brain, heart and guts are all in the right places - voluntarily place himself in the humiliating situation of not being able to be seen in public with those he does business? And why on earth should he pay lip service to the government's fiction of "business as usual"?

Finally, if as some commentators have suggested, both Israel and Israeli businessmen decided to participate in the Doha Conference because that was the wish of Uncle Sam, one might venture to ask why the US government insisted that Doha happen in the first place? Was it hoping for some sort of miracle? Did it feel that chastising Israel from a podium in the Persian Gulf would be more effective than chastising it from Washington? And, at a time when the US was attempting to reformulate as united an Arab anti-Saddam front as possible, what good could come from a conference which symbolized Arab disunity or, at best, an anti-Netanyahu front?

The only Israeli for whom his presence in Doha was understandable was former prime minister Shimon Peres. Eager to play to the bitter end his role of hero in a Greek tragedy, Peres was looking for (and royally granted) a few more minutes in the limelight, and an opportunity to try to convince the world (or himself), with the help of the world media, that his vision of a "New Middle East" is a reality rather than a fast vanishing mirage. But the reality is that unless there is a change of government in Israel in the not-too-distant future, the Doha Conference is likely to be the last MENA economic conference.

The writer is a political scientist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DANGEROUS PLURALISM Sir, - Both sides in the conversion bill controversy agree on one thing: that there is a high degree of mutual alienation between their two religious cultures. This estrangement is based on two divergent concepts of Jewish identification.

Christian church rites that with traditional Orthodox synagogue services. This is why Christians who freely move from one denomination to another can now enjoy the same welcome feeling in a temple where the lenient Reform movement makes conversion as easy as the move from a Baptist to a Presbyterian church. This is the essence of pluralism in America today but it poses a threat to the Jewish character of Israeli society.

lar recognition to Jews for Jesus, Unitarians, Jehovah's Witnesses, Seventh Day Adventists and other groups who strongly identify with the Old Testament and abide by Jewish ethics and even fulfill commandments cherished by the Jewish people.

Whereas Orthodox Jews, especially haredim, strive to maintain old customs and rituals in an effort to live in a traditional all-encompassing Jewish lifestyle, Reform Jews identify primarily as American nationals whose religion happens to be Judaism. Indeed, Reform religious services have more in common with

If and when Reform rabbis attain equal status with Orthodox rabbis here then we must consider the possibility of extending simi-

In terms of Israeli society today, a supporter of pluralism inadvertently contributes to Jewish disunity and perhaps eventual disintegration. TSVI NOVEMBER Jerusalem.

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE Sir, - The supporters of Moshe Feiglin and Shmuel Sackett recently celebrated the relatively light sentences handed down by the judges after the two were convicted of sedition. In reality, however, this is a sad day in the history of Israel's judi-

ciary and a blow for democracy, free speech and the right of protest in the otherwise democratic State of Israel. In the US, Feiglin and Sackett would have been lauded for their bravery in the face of incitement, threats and brutality sanctioned

by the authorities. They might even have been nominated for the once meaningful Nobel Prize for Peace. AVRAHAM Y. GROFF Jerusalem.

GUARD DUTY Sir, - Having recently visited Moshav Gadid in Gush Katif, I was appalled, shocked and hurt when I saw the atrocious living conditions and lack of essential amenities which our brave young soldiers doing guard duty at the

Some settlers even evade scrutiny and try to smuggle Palestinian workers without permits, endangering themselves and the young soldiers. The military leaders should be aware that our boys are risking their lives for the settlers, who in return should act with more benevolence towards them. ABRAHAM BENISO Gibraltar.

and we are trying to keep cool - we are doing the necessary things to prepare and be ready when the time comes," said Golda Myerson in London. Scotland Yard was investigating a mysterious raid on the Jewish Agency's premises there. All offices had been broken into, safe drawers opened, documents scattered, but no money or documents were missing. Alexander Zrieli

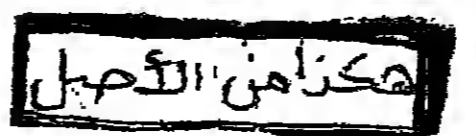
FROM OUR ARCHIVES

60 years ago: On November 25, 1937, The Palestine Post reported the first sentence of death in the post-World War I history of Palestine was passed by the newly-created military court in Haifa on Sheikh Farhan es-Sadi. He was found guilty under the Defense Regulations of carrying arms and ammunition.

a two-thirds majority for Partition was almost a certainty, the Egyptian delegate Mohammed Heykal Pasha warned of the dangers which would befall Jews in Arab countries if the plan was accepted. "It is not our humanitarian duty and your duty on behalf of the Jewish people to place in a serious danger a million Jews just to satisfy a few thousand Jews in Europe or to satisfy a Zionist dream," he concluded.

"We believe we are very close to the formation of a Jewish State

50 years ago: On November 25, 1947, The Palestine Post reported that while the Ad-Hoc Committee members were ready to vote, and



Sometimes it doesn't pay to be a bride

Many poor Indian families are buying into a phenomenon that began after the Persian Gulf oil boom: marrying off their very young daughters to wealthy men from Arab countries. As Dexter Filkins reports, the results are often disastrous

At age 15, Farzana Begum followed a line of 25 girls into a hotel room in Hyderabad, India and stood before a graying, toothless man looking for a bride. "He asked me if I liked him," she said. "I just nodded." The man paid Begum's parents \$30, brought her to his home in the Middle East and booted her out after she bore him a son.

Begum, now 25 and back with her parents, is one of Hyderabad's "Arab-affected" women. She seldom leaves her home and rarely peeks out from behind her black veil. "I don't want to get married again," she said.

In this southern Indian city of narrow streets and spiraling minarets, there are scores of "Arab-affected" women.

They are the refuse of an unusual pipeline that stretches from the middle-class neighborhoods of the Middle East to the heavily Moslem slums of the subcontinent.

Lured by the easy availability of girls from Moslem families too poor to pay the huge dowries Indian grooms often demand, Middle Eastern men find often desperate parents willing to turn over their daughters for tiny amounts of cash.

The practice, which authorities say grew out of the oil boom in the Persian Gulf, supports a network of hotels and brokers, who get a finder's fee for each girl they marry off.

Sometimes the marriages succeed and last a lifetime, say the parents and relatives of women married to men in the Middle East. More often, however, they are brief and end badly, with the groom gone and the bride - usually still a girl - forever disgraced.

And, according to some of the women who fled, some of the marriages amount to little more than slavery, with young brides arriving in the Middle East to find they are wanted only for housework, belly dancing or sex.

While individual stories are impossible to verify - some of the women displayed marriage documents and travel records, while others, like Begum, had none - many women here claim they were discarded by their husbands and forced to leave children behind. Because many of the "Arab-

affected" women are poor and illiterate, they can't challenge their husbands or visit their children.

Indian authorities say they know of the practice and try to arrest offenders, particularly men who marry girls. But they say they are often thwarted by the passivity of India's Moslems, who follow their own traditions rather than Indian law.

The men who seek young Indian brides here would not be interviewed.

Despite repeated efforts, in India and in the Middle East, the husbands of the women interviewed could not be reached for comment.

Envoys to and from Middle Eastern nations contacted about the "Arab-affected" women said they were unaware of them or described their problems as a matter for Indian authorities.

The persistence of the practice, and the failure of public officials here to do much about it, reflects India's continuing struggle to accommodate a Moslem minority of 95 million in a country dominated by the Hindu faith.

Still, some people in India want to end the practice. Moslem leaders in this city recently launched a campaign to discourage it.

And some national leaders are trying to force Moslem to drop their traditions and follow Indian law.

"Doo't blame the Arabs for this," said Amrita Ahluwalia, a Hindu who is active in women's issues in Hyderabad. "Blame the Indians. They are the ones selling their children."

In Hyderabad, the stories of the "Arab-affected" women usually begin in the Barkas, a predominantly Moslem quarter of town. A man arrives from the Middle East in search of a bride, word spreads quickly, and the brokers get to work. "We try to assemble all the girls under one

roof," said Mir, a marriage broker who spoke on the condition his last name not be used.

Mir, 40, a taxi driver with a vacant gaze, plays professional matchmaker to earn extra money. He takes a cut of whatever the groom offers the bride's family, usually about \$50. "When we get

Now Mir holds out little hope that his daughter will find a proper husband. "No boy from a good family will come forward to marry her oow," he said. "Perhaps a widower."

Begum, who was chosen as a spouse from a lineup, recalled how the toothless man who was to be her husband picked her. In line in the hotel room, Begum said, she waited to be picked.

First, she said, the man chose five finalists and sent the rest of the girls home.

Although Begum did not speak the man's language, Arabic, the broker offered to translate into her native Urdu.

"I tried not to consider his physical appearance," Begum said. "I thought if I got married, I would alleviate my family's misery."

Begum's mother, Habeeb Un Nissa, said she saw great promise in her daughter's marriage. At the time, her husband was recovering from eye surgery and unable to work.

A mother of four daughters and two sons, she was working as a domestic servant for about \$2 a week. Nissa said she feared that if her daughter married an Indian man, she and her husband would have had to pay a huge dowry to the groom's family.

Because Begum was 15 at the time, her marriage was illegal under Indian law. But according to a tradition practiced by many Moslems here, Begum was considered fit to marry because she had begun to menstruate.

It is unclear how Begum's marriage became legal. Mir, the marriage broker, offered a clue: Few families here have birth certificates, so they can just lie about their daughters' ages to the clerics who sanctify such marriages.

Saturni Umpathi, Hyderabad's deputy commis-

sioner of police, said his department tries to arrest foreign nationals who marry girls. But it is difficult, he says, because the parents rarely cooperate.

Mahmoud bin Muhammad, the former Indian ambassador to Saudi Arabia, said men in the Middle East look to India as a place where they can get obedient wives for less than it would cost them at home.

"They have to pay a lot more for a wife there," Muhammad said.

"The impression is that Indian women make good wives, that they put the interest of the man first."

Many of the girls who are shuttled to the Middle East discover that their new lives do not turn out as they imagined.

Begum said she arrived in Dubai and found her husband already had three wives and 16 children. He ordered Begum to feed and clean up after them.

Begum gave birth to a son, Khalid, in 1988. Two months after he was born, Begum said, her husband put her on a plane to India - with a one-way ticket and no visa to return.

Begum has not seen her son since he was 2 months old. "I don't even have a photograph of him," she said.

Nor does Begum have a photograph of her husband, nor documents to show that she was married. She did provide the name and address of a man in the United Arab Emirates, which includes Dubai. Attempts to reach him, however, were unsuccessful.

These days Begum tries to help her family by stitching sequins onto saris, a trade she learned at a woman's center. She usually can complete one sari in a week, earning about \$6.

The needlework, she says, helps her cope with her situation.

"Sometimes, I become disinterested in life," Begum said. "Sewing keeps me occupied. It brings me a little happiness." Her greatest hope, she said, is to see her son. She used an Indian aphorism to gauge her chances. "If only wishes were horses," she said.

(Los Angeles Times)

Synagogue ruins in the Suriname jungle

The weathered gravestones lying end to end at the edge of the jungle and the crumbling brick ruins in an overgrown clearing are all that remain of an almost-forgotten chapter of South America's history: the important role Jewish migrants played in the settlement and exploration of the continent.

Abandoned in the dense jungle in Suriname on the northern tip of the continent, here sits what is the hemisphere's oldest synagogue, built in 1685 by Dutch and Italian Jews, seeking to escape the Spanish and Portuguese inquisitions.

Boiled near the banks of the Suriname River, the building was once the center of a prosperous settlement for owners of sugar cane plantations. Now the historic ruins of Jodensavanne, which means Jewish Savannah, are almost beyond salvaging.

The settlement, 35 miles southeast of Paramaribo, the capital, was abandoned in 1832 when a fire destroyed the wooden houses of the village.

But the synagogue, named Berecha Veshalom, continued to be used until about 1860. Now its circular brick stairway, a partly

visible brick floor, a few walls, a solitary window frame and the solid iron hinges for the doors are the only reminders of what was a sizable structure.

"When the plantations were not feasible, people began moving to the city," said Reeco Fernandez, chairman of the tiny remaining Jewish community in Suriname. "People used to go back to the synagogue for holidays, but they built synagogues in the city and there was no longer any need to go."

Recent governments, largely dominated by former military strongman Desi Bouterse, have done little to maintain the site. Suriname's geographic isolation has been exacerbated by its political isolation in recent years because Bouterse is accused of international drug trafficking, and the country has become almost a pariah nation that draws little tourism and outside investment.

"The ruins of Jodensavanne are in danger of disappearance through neglect, vandalism and encroaching vegetation," said a recent UN study that listed the synagogue among 100 important historical sites in the world that are in danger of being lost.

A recent UN study listed the synagogue among 100 important historical sites in the world that are in danger of being lost.

followed by settlements of escaped slaves and in the 19th century, settlers came from Java, China and the Indian subcontinent. Today, the largest ethnic group is the Hindustanis, who trace their roots to the Indian subcontinent and make up about 38 percent of the population. Creoles, persons of mixed race, are the next-largest group. Catholic and Protestant churches flourish alongside synagogues, mosques and Hindu temples.

While the official language is Dutch, a local Creole language called Tiki-Tiki is the lingua franca of the country. English, Hindi, Chinese and Javanese are also spoken. Meanwhile, the Jewish population has dwindled to about 200 people, according to Fernandez, and their historic contribution is almost forgotten.

Fernandez has been trying for years, with limited success, to raise money to restore the synagogue and nearby cemetery.

"Jodensavanne is part of the history of the Jews and the history of the country," Fernandez said. "Part of my task is to save and conserve the possessions of the Jewish community, and this is an important part of that."

(The Washington Post)

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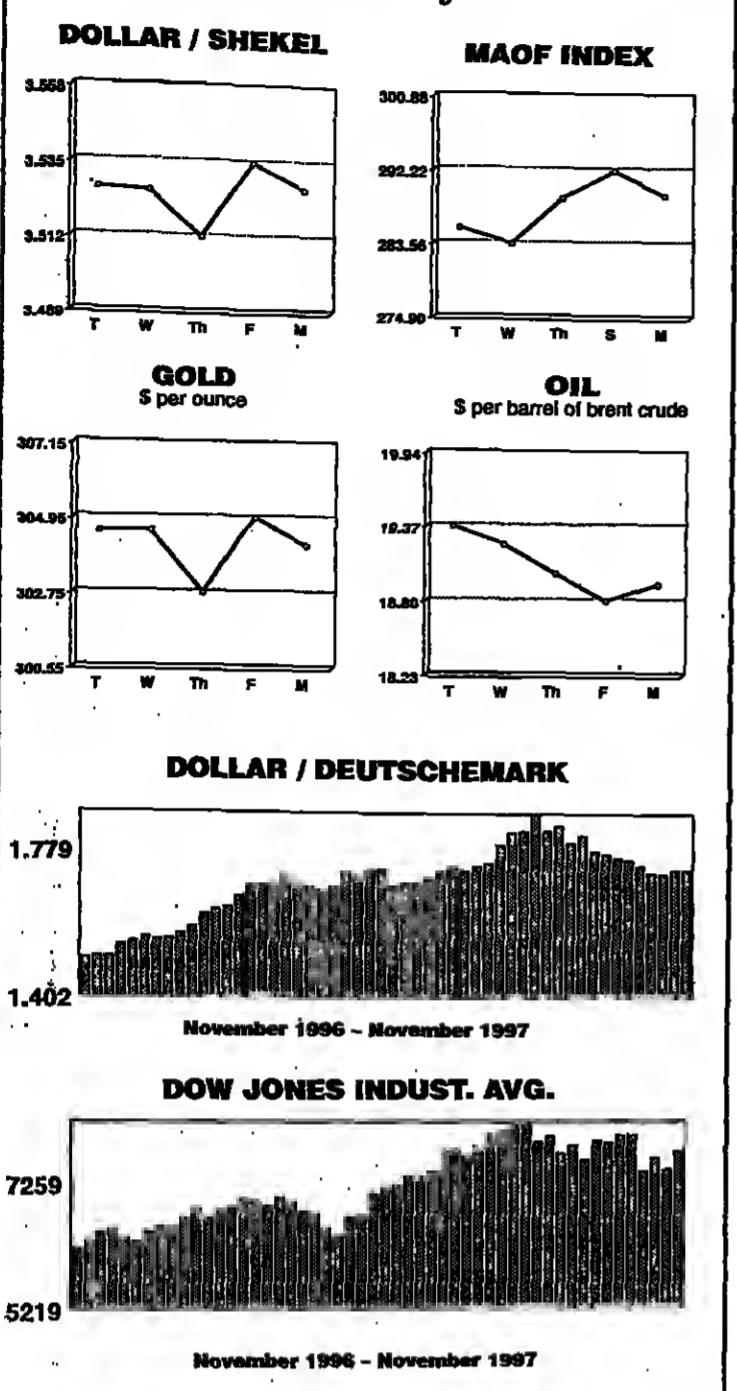
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in brief



Central bank leaves rates unchanged

Frenkel: Unemployment unlinked to inflation decline

By DAVID HARRIS

The Bank of Israel's key leading rate will remain unchanged at 13.4 percent next month, the central bank announced yesterday.

After the unemployment announcement, but prior to the interest rate decision, Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel said there is no link between rising unemployment and declining inflation.

The interest rate decision is in line with the government's mid-term aim of reducing inflation to some 4% by 2001, to bring it in line with the inflation levels seen in Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development countries.

and on the wage agreements," it read. The central bank also issued a reminder of the other targets it has self-imposed, including the return of growth to its potential level, estimated by the Treasury to be some 5%.

Tourism slide continues
The steady flow of tourists arriving by air in the first four months of the year has been replaced by a downturn, according to figures published yesterday by the Central Bureau of Statistics. The 1997 monthly figures also show a large decline in comparison to those registered last year. In October 1996, for example, there were 133,000 tourist arrivals by air, compared to 117,000 this October. Since January, some 1,308,100 tourists flew into the country.

46,000 cars predicted stolen by year's end
Avraham Rinot, vice chairman of the Union of Insurance Companies, predicts that the number of stolen cars will reach 46,000 in 1997 compared with 37,000 in 1996. He said that thieves are becoming more sophisticated and that some of them are getting training from professional car electricians, who show them how to avoid technical problems.

World Bank: PA has great economic potential

By DAVID HARRIS

The Palestinian economy can grow even under conditions of closure by Israel, by taking advantage of its favorable trade status with the US and European Union, a World Bank report issued yesterday said.

Among its main recommendations are:
• Increasing the diversification of trade, especially given the PA's favorable trade status with the US and European Union.
• Speeding more government funds on building infrastructure.
• Using the vast array of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) more effectively.
• Keeping the size of the civil service in check.
• Fostering more competition within the Palestinian economy.

UNWRA," Stiglitz said. Compared to many other countries, the PA has considerable capital at its disposal, with a rich set of NGOs, he added. Interdependence with the Israeli economy should not be envisaged as problematic, but of benefit to both sides, creating employment opportunities and a market for Palestinians, Stiglitz said.

Clal Industries and Investments reported yesterday third-quarter net profits of NIS 15.3m, compared to a net loss of 17.3m. for the same period last year.

DRIVE CAREFULLY

Israel Electric Corporation

TENDERS

The Israel Electric Corporation wishes to announce the results of the following tenders:

1. Subject and scope of tender:	No. 588834 - Supply of leader cables Quantity: 37 types; total of 2,023 km.
Names and addresses of winners:	Zion Cables, Rishon LeZion Pica Plast, Yavne
Date of decision:	September 23, 1997
Value of winning tenders:	Zion Cables, \$651,362 Pica Plast, \$1,300,860
Lowest bid:	\$2,142,579
Highest bid:	\$3,188,065

2. Subject and scope of tender:	No. 561608 - Supply of subsidiary piping for the Rutenberg Bet Power Station Quantity: 300 fittings, including pipes and accessories
Names and addresses of winners:	Yisrael Mendelson, Kiryat Ata Middle East Tube Co., Ramle Techno-Bar, Rishon LeZion Avrot Industries, Kibbutz Beerot Yitzhak H.G.I.I., Petah Tikva Sheril Ltd., Haifa
Date of decision:	September 3, 1997
Value of winning tender:	\$2,967,789

Yamaichi employees outraged over firm's closure

By JUNKO FUJITA

TOKYO (Bloomberg) - On the day Yamaichi Securities Co. said it was closing, employees hurried to its Tokyo headquarters in the dark, conservative suits that are the uniform of Japanese business people, all wearing their company pins with the triangular Yamaichi logo - a sign of loyalty. Inside, though, many said they are angry.

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Banking on human resources

World Bank President James D. Wolfensohn is introducing reform, campaigning for debt forgiveness and waging a war against corruption. Faced with a global economy beset by Asia's financial turmoil, he discusses the bank's role and relevance

By ADRIAN WOOLDRIDGE

This is not a good time to be president of the World Bank. The Left accuses the bank of forcing underdeveloped countries to march to the rich world's tune. The Right accuses it of acting as a crutch to corrupt and incompetent governments. And even nonideological critics wonder if the surge in private investment in emerging markets is rendering the bank irrelevant.

James D. Wolfensohn, the bank's ninth president, looks remarkably chipper for a man who runs such a besieged organization. Married with three grown children, he has the puckish grin and easy manner of somebody who has chosen to take early retirement rather than to run a global organization. Dig a little deeper, however, and you find his casual air conceals an iron belief that he and his 10,000 employees (including field staff) are doing the best they can for the world's poor.

This is not to say he is complacent. The 63-year-old Wolfensohn has launched three substantial initiatives since coming into office two years ago, convinced the bank needs to revitalize itself if it is to remain the flagship of international development agencies. He has tried to crack down on corruption. He has started lobbying rich countries to forgive billions of dollars of debt to the world's most heavily indebted nations, largely in Africa. He has begun to reform the bank's cumbersome bureaucracy.

How successful has he been? Corruption, or the lack of it, is notoriously hard to measure. The campaign for debt forgiveness will not bear fruit for another two or three years. But his drive to reform the bank is already producing tangible results. Wolfensohn's critics charge he has made the bank even more inward-looking than it was already. They say he is a little too keen on the management science he learned as an MBA student at Harvard.

But he has shaken the World Bank out of its torpor. He has forced Washington-based bureaucrats to spend at least some time out in the field. He has weaned the bank off the mega-projects that used to be its signature, focusing on smaller projects, mixing private and public money and involving locals in solving their own problems.

Does the recent turmoil in Asian currencies and stock markets suggest that the "Asian economic miracle" was really just a mirage? Absolutely not. What you've seen in recent times is a forceful realignment that has been forged by fundamental economic forces which can hit any economy. It hit Thailand brutally because their exports were down. Their currency was misaligned. There was excessive dependence on foreign borrowings, and the banks were poorly supervised. But these are all issues which can be fixed. What you still have is a very educated population, now needing to readjust in terms of what they do for exports... I'm fundamentally very optimistic about Asia.

Will some of this turbulence continue, and will China be exempt from these problems? I don't think you can say that any country is exempt from the possibility. The United States, after all, had it in the savings-and-loan crisis, which no one anticipated. I don't think that it is a mark of infamy that you have a financial problem. What is important is that you get through it and that you can deal with it.

What I've seen in China... is a government that is aware of the problems, that is seeking to deal with them directly with Zhu Rongji as vice premier and possibly as premier. You have someone of



The market turmoil in Asia hit Thailand particularly hard, but Wolfensohn remains optimistic. 'What you still have is a very educated population, now needing to readjust in terms of what they do for exports.' (Los Angeles Times)

immense experience in financial management and economic management. And my guess is that he'd be someone who could lead China through the difficulties. The World Bank has been fairly criticized in the past for funding big pro-

jects that are out of kilter with local economies. Is this changing, and if so, how?

I'm sure in some cases it was true, but it was never done without the concurrence of the local government. So we all

may have made some mistakes.... I think the bank can also be pretty proud of what it's done, because there is infrastructure in these countries, which is an essential part of development. But what you have to look at today is a greater recognition of social issues, about the impact of projects and about the scale of projects.... Many people would say that there is a greater emphasis on smaller projects, scaled to the communities, than on larger projects, but I don't start with any religious prejudice on that.

What is the bank doing to help people help themselves?

A tremendous amount.... If you talk about people helping themselves, I guess the first thing is investing in education and health. If you don't have that as a prerequisite, you don't have people with the ability to help themselves.... The second thing to do is to try to make sure that there's an adequate infrastructure to allow them to have mobility.... And, finally, and most importantly, making sure that women have equal access to opportunities. Because if you bring the women and the girls along, you really have an opportunity of building a cohesive family structure, and you're introducing the ointment of the family supporting itself, an extra bread winner, as well as someone who has access to economic opportunity.

What are you doing to make sure your money is spent on your customers rather than on the system itself?

Starting at home, we want to make sure that our own procedures are economic, efficient and directed not to the bureaucracy but to the effectiveness of projects. When you get your own house in order, you can then insist your own clients do the same. And so we're doing a great deal more in terms of the delivery, using out just governments, but where governments agree, members of civil society, who very often are less expensive.

Over the last few years, we've seen a substantial increase in the amount of private capital flowing into "emerging markets." Where does that leave the bank? Is it making you irrelevant?

I would be grateful if we were made irrelevant, because it would mean poverty would be gone.... According to today's numbers, the private sector is putting \$245 billion into the developing world, juxtaposed against official contributions that add up to \$45b. But the private sector invests in projects that are income-generating. So they'll go into a good power station, they'll go into managing a water-supply system, they'll go into telecommunications or port management, each of which is deeply needed. But you don't see them in education, you don't see them in training judges, you don't see them in regulatory reform.... Secondly, 80 percent of their money goes to 12 countries, while 140 countries get less than 5% of private-sector financing and sub-Saharan Africa gets 1%....

It's very unlikely that, in my lifetime, either the bank or bilateral institutions or regional banks are going to become unnecessary. One of your biggest initiatives is the war on corruption. But among some of your clients - I'm thinking particularly of Nigeria - corruption is so pervasive that one almost can't imagine the system working without it. How do you deal with that? A: You deal with it forcefully and modestly. We're a World Bank, but not a world government. What we can ensure is that we don't lend to corrupt projects, and that we support those institutions in a country that wants to bring about action on corruption.... It is clear that corruption is the single strongest issue on the minds of voters.

It is also the single most inhibiting factor for investment, not just foreign, but domestic. So I think that the world is getting fed up with corruption. Poor people can stand being poor but not if someone else is getting rich at their expense. There are enough of these people now in developing countries, and with an infusion of democracy people are screaming about it. So I would guess that the next decade will see a significant reduction. I would love to see a complete eradication, but I think that would be excessive. (Los Angeles Times)

THE CONFERENCE CIRCUIT

By GREEN FAY CASHMAN

25-11 At Ottawa, Canada, the Egyptian, Tunisian, and Lebanese ambassadors will be among the speakers at a symposium on "Development in the Arab States." Organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the seminar will be held at the Jordanian International Congress Center. Decisions will include subjects related to foreign policy, consular relations, agricultural development, education, culture, the evolution of the democratic process, and health and medical systems. The closing session will be addressed by MK Ehud Barak, who will speak on "The G-15 and its influence on regional security."

25-11 The Annual Conference of the Israel Orthopedists Association will be held at the Hilton International Congress Center. The two-day conference will focus on subjects such as orthopedics for geriatrics, orthopedics for infants and children, and new techniques in orthopedics.

25-11 The Law Faculty at the Aviv University will host a conference marking the 25th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Contracts Law. Much of the conference will be devoted to business contracts and contracts in the work place.

1-12 Employment, unemployment, and Status of Women in the Workforce is the subject of a two-day seminar taking place at the Raddisson-Marrin Hotel, Ramat Hasharon, under the auspices of the Israel Association for Research into Labor Relations, the Labor Institute, the Institute for Promoting Labor Relations, the Employment Ministry, the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Association for Labor Legislation and Social Security, the Manufacturers' Association and

7-12 The Annual General Meeting of the Stockholders of Red Sea Hotels will be held at the company's registered offices, 4 Kaufman Street, Tel Aviv. In addition to the usual business of approving reports, appointing a board and an accountant, and determining salaries and conditions of employment, those attending will also be asked to approve bonuses for company executives.

9-12 Israel's first Suppliers Conference on Advanced Technology will take place at the Dan Panorama Congress Center, Tel Aviv. Participants will be looking both at the immediate future of Israeli industry, and beyond, toward the third millennium.

The dawning of a new Daewoo

The Korea-based conglomerate is betting on the new Lanos to elevate it from its bargain-basement brand association

By Joel Gordin



The Korea-based conglomerate Daewoo (pronounced "day who") has made large inroads into Israel with high-tech equipment, facsimile machines, VCRs - and, of course, automobiles. Although Daewoo only started selling cars here toward the end of 1993, the Daewoo Racer became the country's second-best selling automobile in 1994 (behind the Mitsubishi Lancer). Its successor, the Super Racer, was also a hit.

Both the Racer and Super Racer offered a lot of space and a long list of accessories for a relatively low price. Yet in spite of booming sales, Daewoo can't seem to shake its unfortunate association with bargain hunters. The company had a historical link with General Motors, and the Racer and Super Racer were based on dated Opels, which inevitably earned them the reputation of being the "poor person's Opel."

However, Daewoo has now come of age. It is replacing the Racer and Super Racer with a model called the Lanos, which has been designed independently of GM. The impressive front grille and the lines of the hood lend a "classic" European look. The Lanos is not merely a facelifted Super Racer - but rather an entirely new car. The Lanos will be available here with a 1.5-liter engine, in manual shift and automatic-shift versions; in two standards of trim. I test-drove the model that will be the most sought after here: the 4SE with automatic shift in the highest standard of trim. Luxury gadgets

include four power windows, central door locking and interior huttons for opening the trunk, hood and gas-tank lid. Missing are the electrically controlled side mirrors as well as an adjustable front seat and steering wheel. Safety accessories include two front airbags and a warning to fasten seat belts. There is no option for an ABS braking system.

The dashboard is solidly constructed from hard plastic which also feels metallic. The controls are well designed, and I especially liked the large, easy-to-use knob on the air-conditioning/heating unit. The smallest glove compartment is accompanied by big map pockets on the inside of the front doors and a utility box in the console between the seats. The roomy trunk will meet the needs of an entire family. The seats, which can comfortably accommodate four adults, are covered with high-quality, pleasant upholstery.

The computer-controlled automatic shift gives the driver a choice of "power" and normal programs, as well as an option to use or cancel overdrive, by shifting into "drive 3" and "drive 4," respectively. But the Lanos will not become a sports car, no matter how many buttons you push and the "power" mode only increases the engine's sound without adding any fury to the performance. I found that by keeping the shift in "drive 4" and out of the "power" program I obtained a smooth, quiet ride that would do credit to any of the more expensive family-class cars sold here today.

Once the Lanos settles in on the highway, doing 90-100 km/h at 2,300 r.p.m., it is at its best - and

it's a very good best. The non-aggressive, user-friendly engine is complemented by the soft suspension. The road holding is satisfactory, the brakes are good and the steering is flexible, but sharp.

The Lanos is the perfect answer for those family-car buyers who are looking for a clean, smooth, quiet ride. For the relatively low price, they are also getting a modern, impressive-looking vehicle. It is considerably cheaper than both its main rivals, the 1.5-liter Hyundai Accent and the 1.5-liter Daihatsu Classic. For the minority of Israelis who prefer changing gears manually, the Lanos' stick-shift version starts at NIS 62,500. And for those who want a larger car with a bigger engine, Daewoo has also replaced its upmarket Espero model with the Nubira, which comes in a 1.6-liter engine (106 horsepower) or a two-liter engine (133 horsepower).

The Nubira is 23 cm. longer than the Lanos. The automatic version ranges in price from NIS 75,000 to NIS 80,000, depending on the trim you choose. If you want to go even bigger and better, then you may wait for the Leganza, which will replace the Daewoo Prince Super Saloon.

DAEWOO LANOS 4SE four-door passenger car. ENGINE: 1,498cc. HORSEPOWER: 86 at 5,800 r.p.m. TORQUE: 13.3 at 5,400 r.p.m. GEARS: automatic. MAXIMUM SPEED: 161 km/h. ACCELERATION: From 0-100 km/h in 15 secs. GASOLINE CONSUMPTION: 10.2 km/l. in town; 18.8 km/l. at 90 km/h. PRICE: NIS 69,900

BITS & BYTES

WITH JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

EduSoft joins with Heinle & Heinle: EduSoft Ltd. of Tel Aviv recently announced that it has signed a memorandum of understanding with Heinle & Heinle of Boston, Massachusetts, for the joint development and marketing of a new English-as-a-second-language multimedia series for children. Heinle & Heinle is a major American publisher, specializing in the field of foreign- and second-language learning. EduSoft develops multimedia educational titles.

MPC developing electronic pen: Management Project Corp. of Rehovot is developing an electronic pen that combines computer-handwriting recognition and radio-signal detection to allow users to enter written information directly into their computers. The pen will be equipped with

a chip capable of storing five to 10 pages of written material at a time, which can be later transferred to the computer's hard disk, MPC said. The company predicts that the electronic pen can be fully developed in 10 months to one year.

Real-Time Computer Show Nov. 25: The Real-Time Computer Show will take place at the Dan Panorama Hotel in Tel Aviv on November 25. The show will feature hardware and software companies from a range of high-tech fields.

Robomatix sells Micronic inspection unit for \$8.6 million: Robomatix Technologies Ltd.

recently announced the completion of the sale of its interest in D.D.I.S. Israel Ltd. to the Soquel Group L.L.C., a US limited liability company, for about \$8.6m. The consideration for the sale of the Robomatix interest in D.D.I.S. consists of \$2.2m. covering a previously incurred debt, current cash in the amount of \$3.5m. and cash in the amount of \$3m. to be paid over the next three years. Robomatix of Ra'anana develops automation systems that use laser-based robotics components.

TASE expands Web site: The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange said that it has expanded the range of data now available on its Internet site. At the end

of each day, the site displays trading data of all the shares and convertibles traded on the TASE. Check out the site at www.tase.co.il.

2AM partners with EarthLink, Prodigy: 2AM Inc., developer and provider of on-line multiplayer games, has signed contracts with EarthLink, Prodigy and Internet service providers in the US and Canada. According to the terms of the agreement, the companies will provide their subscribers with easy access to 2AM's internet titles. 2AM of Beit Shמשesh creates on-line multiplayer strategy games which allow people from all around the world to meet and challenge one another over the Web.

TASE, Dow fall on Asian concern

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE, Tase, Dow Jones, FTSE 100, Nikkei 225, Hang Seng.

Table with columns: LAST CHANGE, Euro, Dollar, Yen, Pound, Swiss Franc.

Table of FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES with columns: Instrument, Last, Change.

Tei Aviv

Israeli stocks dropped yesterday as investors were wary of the effect of the failure of Japan's Yamaichi Securities on securities markets worldwide.

Europe

UK stocks slumped yesterday, led by banks, after the closure of Japan's oldest brokerage renewed concern that companies that do business in Asia could see their profits cramped.

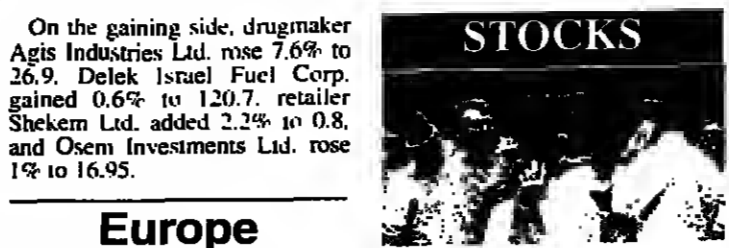


Table with columns: Stock Index, Last, Change. Maof 289.3, Dow Jones 7767, FTSE 4898.6.

Wall Street

Stocks pulled back sharply yesterday amid fears that the failure of a major Japanese brokerage will roll the Tokyo Stock Exchange, which was closed for a holiday.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 113.15 points to 7,767.92, which was down more than a third of last week's 308-point gain.

While the US stock market displayed some resilience to overseas events last week, investors were unnerved by heavy selling on European markets and the threat of a potential selloff on the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

The benchmark Hang Seng index rose 38.16 points, or 0.4%, to 10,586.36.

The yen fell against the yen after the demise of Yamaichi Securities Co. underscored weakness in Japan's financial system.

Yen down following Yamaichi's collapse

Table of LONDON market data.

Table of US COMMODITIES market data.

The dollar rose against the yen after the demise of Yamaichi Securities Co. underscored weakness in Japan's financial system.

The dollar rose to 126.81 yen from 126.36 in late trading Friday.

markets for Japanese goods, so weakness there can mean lower demand for Japanese exports.

Table of PARIS market data.

Table of NEW YORK METAL FUTURES market data.

Yamaichi collapsed under the weight of scandals, hidden debt and years of losses. Meantime, Japanese banks are weighed down by an estimated \$227 billion of real estate loans gone bad.

Investors are treating Japan and the entire Asian region with a significant measure of disdain, said Stephen Jury, managing director of foreign exchange at Union Bank of Switzerland.

The shakier the financial system, the more difficult it will be for Japan to pull out of its six-year economic slump and the longer its interest rates will remain at record low levels.

The aid package, aimed at long-term stability, could mean higher taxes, lower spending and rising joblessness in the short-term, analysts said.

"Japan's a proxy for Korea," said Paul Spiegel, senior currency trader at Royal Bank of Scotland.

"The Swiss franc and the mark have gained strength" against other currencies, said Jury.

The dollar fell to 1.4042 Swiss francs from 1.4100 francs. (Bloomberg)

Advertisement for Tel Aviv shares data supplied by Pacific Mediterranean Investments.

Advertisement for CommStock Trading Ltd. featuring Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds.

Precious metals

Silver rose amid buoyant demand from the photographic industry and speculation that investment funds have been building large silver holdings.

Oil

January Brent crude oil futures prices were little changed as United Nations teams resumed weapons inspections in Iraq, even though initial findings indicate that sites had been entered in their absence.

Silver climbs on demand from photo industry

largest cocoa producer, is expected to produce more than 1.2 million tons of cocoa in 1997-98, up from 1.15 million tons in 1996-97.

Aluminum fell as persistent concern a spreading economic slowdown in Asia will further curb consumption of the metal offset a sustained decline in London Metal Exchange stockpiles.

A currency crisis which started in Southeast Asia following the devaluation of the Thai baht in July now appears to be spreading to larger economies such as South Korea where the won has reached record lows against the dollar.

The Bank of Japan's Matsushita didn't say how much the central bank might have to lend. The Japanese press says it could be as much as several billion dollars.

"There's a general fear that the Japanese institutions will be forced to bring home their investments overseas to prop up their very weak balance sheets," said Andrew Milligan, senior economic advisor at GA Investment Management.

The shutdown of Yamaichi, Japan's fourth largest brokerage, marks the biggest business failure in Japan since World War II.

Japanese debt. "The yield differential is immense," said Milligan. "Treasuryies are in a sense the jewels in their crowns."

At a yield of 5.83%, US 10-year notes yield 390 basis points more than the 1.97% yield on the No. 197 10-year Japanese bond.

Treasuries may also hold their ground as investors seeking refuge from turbulent Asian markets move into US government debt.

"The other side of the coin is the flight to quality," said Adrian Owens, of Julius Baer Investments Ltd. "For now, it's going to be a little bit of a battle as people try to make up their minds which is going to be the dominant force."

Table of ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS showing Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) for 3, 6, and 12 months.

Table of CHECKS AND TRANSFERS and BANKNOTES with columns for Buy, Sell, and Rep. Rates.

US bonds fall on fear Japan will sell treasuries

US bonds fell amid concern Japanese government institutions will sell Treasury securities to bolster ailing banks and brokerages after Yamaichi Securities Co. decided to close down.

Commodities

Gold \$304.15 up 0.8%. Crude Oil \$18.92 up 0.04. CRB 237.83 up 0.56.

Bonds

US 30-year T-bill yield 6.06 up 0.3. Takushoku Bank, one of Japan's major banks, and Sanyo Securities, a brokerage, also failed.

US bonds fall on fear Japan will sell treasuries

US bonds fell amid concern Japanese government institutions will sell Treasury securities to bolster ailing banks and brokerages after Yamaichi Securities Co. decided to close down.

"The fear of Japanese selling of Treasuries is keeping us from going higher," said Mike Chloerty, bond strategist at Credit Suisse First Boston. Japanese investors are the biggest foreign holders of US debt.

The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond fell 1/32, or \$3.44 per \$1,000 bond, to 100 30/32, pushing its yield up 3 basis points to 6.06 percent.

Also weighing on bonds are planned Treasury sales of some \$75.5 billion of new debt. Wall Street firms that bid on new Treasury debt and resell it to investors often try to drive up yields before a sale to drum up demand for the new securities.

Concern about Japanese selling was sparked after Yamaichi said it will close after failing to merge with another company or obtain a government bailout.

"There's a general fear that the Japanese institutions will be forced to bring home their investments overseas to prop up their very weak balance sheets," said Andrew Milligan, senior economic advisor at GA Investment Management.

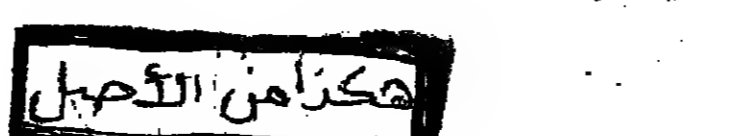
The shutdown of Yamaichi, Japan's fourth largest brokerage, marks the biggest business failure in Japan since World War II.

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General Assistance

- 655-8407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight. Hal's Mail, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
EMERGENCY PHARMACIES
JERUSALEM: Super Pharm, 5 Bura, 679-1951; Batsam, Salah el-Din, 627-2015; Shuaat, Shuaat Road, 581-0105; Dar Aldeira, Herod's Gate, 285-2058.

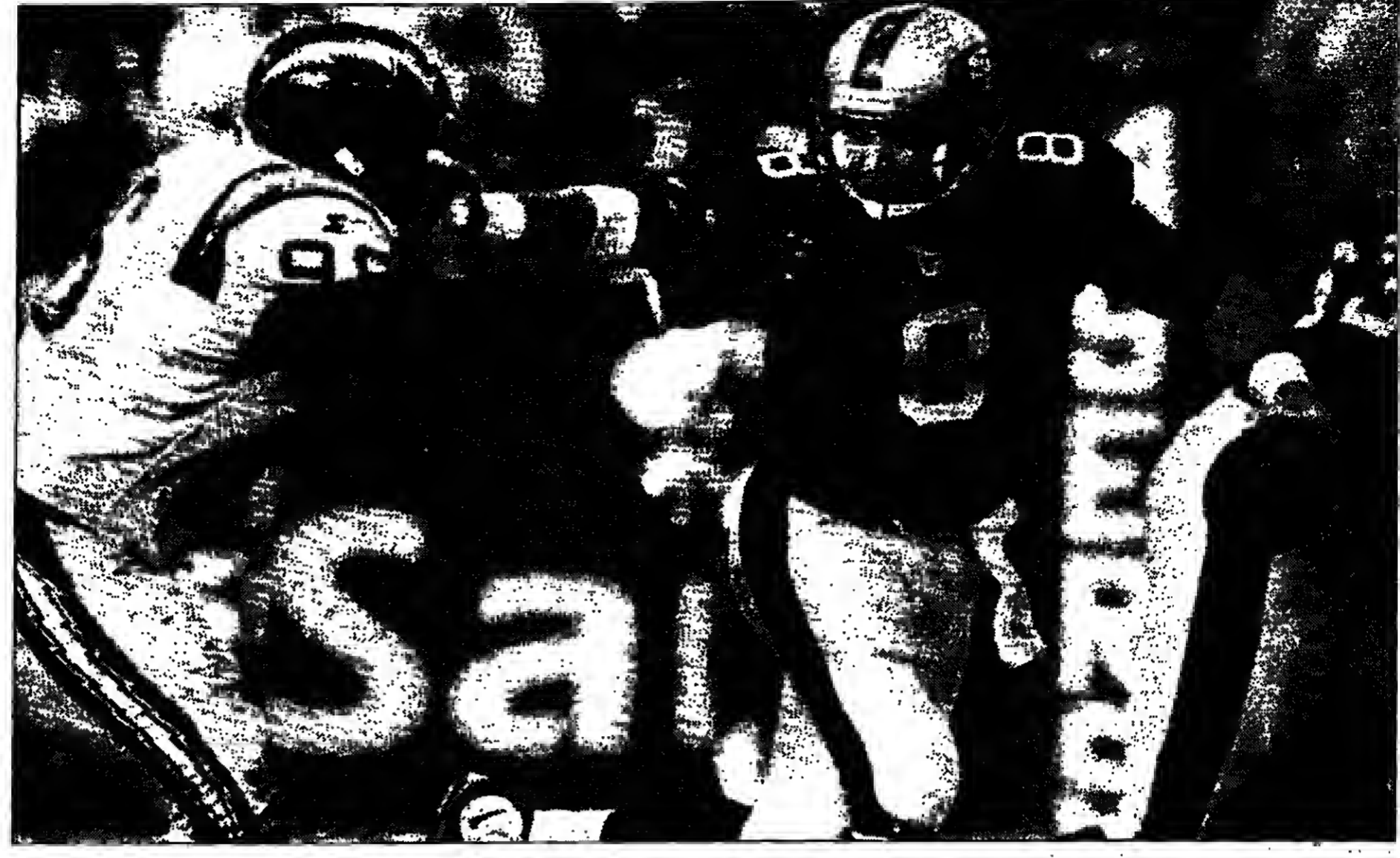
WHERE TO GO. List of locations for medical services, museums, and educational institutions.



Large vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, featuring 'SPECIAL ONLY' and 'We want your used...'

Young leads Niners to 11th-straight win

Tie with Redskins gives Giants NFC East lead; Boomer's back in Bengals win



KEEPING HIS DISTANCE - San Francisco QB Steve Young (8) straight arms Chargers' Norman Hand as he runs for a first down in first-quarter action. The 49ers won 17-10 to stay undefeated this season.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - The San Francisco 49ers won a team-record 11th straight game by beating the San Diego Chargers 17-10 on Sunday in their first meeting since the 1995 Super Bowl.

Steve Young threw for two touchdowns and Merton Hanks two interceptions led to 10 points as the 49ers, who clinched the NFC West title last week, stayed on pace to claim homefield advantage throughout the playoffs.

The Chargers (4-8) have lost four in a row. Redskins 7, NY Giants 7. After an ugly overtime in which the host Redskins had three turnovers and a costly unportsmanlike conduct penalty on Michael Westbrook, the game ended in a tie that left the Giants in first place in the NFC East.

There were 22 punts, 10 sacks and Washington quarterback Gus Frerotte put himself in the hospital by ramming his head into a wall. The tie was the first for Washington since overtime began in 1974. It was the Giants' first tie since 1983. The result kept the Giants (7-4-1) in first place in the NFC East, ahead of the Redskins (6-5-1) and Dallas Cowboys (6-6) with four games to play.

The Redskins blew a chance to win in the extra period when Westbrook yanked his helmet off to argue after his catch was ruled out of bounds near the Giants 30. The resulting 15-yard took Washington out of field goal position, and Scott Blanton's 54-yarder fell short with two seconds to play.

Bengals 31, Jaguars 26. Boomer Esiason threw for two touchdowns in his first start since returning to the Bengals. While denoted Jeff Blake stood on the sideline in a warmup jacket, Esiason led host Cincinnati (4-8) to four first-half touchdowns, its best first half since he was the quarterback in 1990. The Bengals traded Esiason in 1993, and he played for the Jets and Cardinals before returning this season.

Jacksonville (8-4) couldn't overcome the 28-10 halftime deficit and wound up blowing a chance to take sole possession of first place in the AFC Central. Cardinals 16, Ravens 13.

Arizona got its first road win of the season when Joe Nedney kicked a 43-yard field goal as time expired. The Ravens (4-7-1) tied it on a 34-yard field goal by Matt Stover with 34 seconds left. But Arizona QB Jake Plummer, making his fifth NFL start, moved the Cardinals (3-9) 55 yards in six plays to set up Nedney's third field goal of the game.

Oilers 31, Bills 14. Steve McNair ran for two touchdowns and threw for a third against the foe of the NFL's stingiest defenses as host Tennessee kept its slim playoff hopes alive. Buffalo (5-7) had allowed only

13 touchdowns on 36 trips inside the 20 this season, but the Oilers scored on three of their four trips into the red zone. Only Eddie George's fumble stopped them from scoring a fourth time. Chiefs 19, Seahawks 14. Visiting Kansas City didn't give up a second-half touchdown for the seventh straight game. The Chiefs beat the Seahawks for the sixth straight time and 13th in 14 games. Seattle drove to the Chiefs 10 in the closing minutes, but Warren Moon then threw three incomplete passes before being sacked and fumbling on fourth down.

In games reported yesterday, it was Green Bay 45, Dallas 17; New England 27, Miami 24; NY Jets 23, Minnesota 21 and Carolina (6-6).

Cardinals 16, Ravens 13. Arizona got its first road win of the season when Joe Nedney kicked a 43-yard field goal as time expired. The Ravens (4-7-1) tied it on a 34-yard field goal by Matt Stover with 34 seconds left.

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Ditka's second thoughts

ATLANTA (AP) - This was a different kind of meltdown for Iron Mike. No ranting and raving, just the realization that it might be time to give up coaching - this time for good. Mike Ditka, his eyes welching with tears, said he was ready to quit after New Orleans suffered a dismal 20-3 loss Sunday to the Atlanta Falcons. It was a quite a change from the previous two weeks, when the Saints put together a winning streak under their fiery, first-year coach.

Ditka returned to coaching this season with the Saints after spending the last four years as a commentator for NBC. Prior to that, he spent 13 honorable seasons in Chicago, guiding the Bears to a 112-68 record and one Super Bowl championship. "I gave it a try, but I can't reach people," he said. "I thought it would turn out that I'd reach them anyway, and that's what I'm not doing. They're not listening to me. They're just watching me. I don't know what I'm doing." Ditka said he likely will quit at the end of the season if things don't turn around in the final four games. "Maybe the game has passed me by," he said. "Maybe all the experts were right."

Table with 15 columns: Team, W, L, Pct, PF, PA

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Table with 15 columns: Team, W, L, Pct, PF, PA

Bondra hot in Caps 4th-straight road victory

MIAMI (AP) - Peter Bondra continued his hot streak with two goals and an assist as the Washington Capitals won their fourth straight on the road, 5-2 over the Florida Panthers on Sunday night.

Bondra, who leads the Capitals with 16 goals, has six goals in four games and a point in his last eight. Olaf Kolzig stopped 28 shots to improve his record to 12-4-2. John Vanbiesbroek (5-8-2) had 25 saves for the Panthers.

Florida dropped its fourth consecutive game at home and has a five-game winless streak at Miami Arena. The Panthers have won only two games at home this season, the last coming against Washington on Nov. 9.

Flames 3, Hurricanes 3. In Greensboro, North Carolina, the smallest crowd of the season in the NHL saw the Carolina Hurricanes rally from a three-goal deficit for a tie with the Calgary Flames.

Nelson Emerson capped the comeback when he tipped in Geoff Sanderson's 30-foot blast with 5:24 remaining. Attendance was announced at 5,516, which was 36 fewer than the turnout for the Hurricanes' home game earlier this month against Ottawa. The latest crowd came two nights after a season-high 19,358 came out to the Greensboro Coliseum to see Wayne Gretzky and the New York Rangers, and it dropped Carolina's average attendance to 8,886 at the 21,500-seat facility.

Kings 2, Avalanche 1 (OT). Luc Robitaille scored at 2:43 of overtime as Los Angeles rallied for a road victory. It was the 10th goal of the season for Robitaille, who took a cross-ice pass from Gary Galley and beat Craig Billington from the lower right circle.

Robitaille's goal capped a comeback for the Kings, who tied the game at 16:41 of the third period on a goal by Vladimir Tsyplakov. Claude Lemieux scored for Colorado at 5:03 of the second period.

NFL table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA

NFL table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA

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NFL table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA

AMERICAN CONFERENCE table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA

NATIONAL CONFERENCE table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA

NBA table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, PF, PA

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NBA table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, PF, PA

NBA table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, PF, PA

CRITICAL, CLASSICAL MUSIC, THEATRE, MOVIE, CRYPTIC



First appearance of the 'win' logo.

ights

...the ... of ...

Bondra hot in Caps 4th-straight road victory

...the ... of ...

CRITICS' CHOICE

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT
It's an evening for singing in three different concert programs. Kurt Masur, the honorary guest conductor of the IPO, leads the orchestra in Beethoven's monumental Ninth (Choral) Symphony and Schoenberg's A Survivor from Warsaw...



William Henry Curry leads the Israel Camerata Jerusalem in a program of Stravinsky and Shostakovich.

Countertenor Derek Lee Ragin joins the Israel Camerata Jerusalem to sing Pergolesi's Salve Regina and a Vivaldi cantata, while William Henry Curry leads the orchestra in Stravinsky's Pulcinella and Shostakovich's Chamber Symphony Opus 110a...

THEATER

HELEN KAYE

Hanoch Levin's Murder is a somewhat disingenuous look at the repetitively senseless cycle of Jewish/Arab enmity. The brilliantly theatrical Cameri Theater production is directed by Omri Nitzan...

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

FACEOFF - Preposterously violent and surprisingly entertaining, this is a fantastical thriller by the king of preposterous violence and

AROUND THE WORLD table with weather forecasts for various cities like Amsterdam, Berlin, Boston, etc.

WINNING CARDS

Home Delivery of THE JERUSALEM POST. Please direct all inquiries to Tel. 177-022-2278.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS
5 Forces valet to be a comic character (7)
8 Put into liquidation? (8)
9 Foreign legion's drink (4,3)
10 Old Tayside castle in which Beaulieu once stayed (5)

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-31.

SOLUTIONS
ANTHONY'S: 1. BATTLE, 2. PAPER, 3. MEMO, 4. PEPPER, 5. TILL, 6. WINE, 7. RICE, 8. AGONY, 9. KISS, 10. PIANO, 11. MAMA, 12. BROTHER, 13. PIANO, 14. BROTHER, 15. MAMA, 16. BROTHER, 17. PIANO, 18. BROTHER, 19. MAMA, 20. BROTHER, 21. PIANO, 22. BROTHER, 23. PIANO, 24. BROTHER, 25. PIANO, 26. BROTHER, 27. PIANO, 28. BROTHER, 29. PIANO, 30. BROTHER, 31. PIANO.

QUICK CROSSWORD

QUICK CROSSWORD grid with clues: 1 XL (5), 4 Masticated (6), 9 Some (7), 10 Creep (5), 11 Volcano (4), 12 Stupid (7), 13 Writing tool (3), 14 And (4), 15 Jones (4), 16 Fuel (3), 20 Pugnacious (7), 21 Fuzz (4), 24 Bit-part actor (5), 25 Original inhabitants (7), 26 Not madness (6), 27 Underworld (5).

PRIME TIME TV

Table of TV programs for Prime Time TV, including News, Beverly Hills 90210, Helen and the Boys, etc.

TV

19:15 Orient sur Seine
19:30 News headlines
19:35 Sarah
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel

CABLE

ARABIC PROGRAMS
18:30 Apropo
19:00 News
HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 News flash
19:51 Garpic, Pepper and Olive Oil

CHILDREN

6:30 Cartoons
9:00 Magic Schoolbus
9:25 Little Bear
9:35 Make Believe Closet

FAMILY CHANNEL

7:00 Good Evening with Yossi Sassi
7:30 The Young and the Restless
19:00 The Young and the Restless

MOVIES

Express-One-Night Stand 5, 7:30, 9:30
RAY CHEN = 6282758 G.I. Jane 7, 9:30
OR YEHUDA
G.G. GIL = 44 Conspiracy Theory-The Game 4:45, 7:15, 10 - G.I. Jane-Fire Down Below 5, 7:30, 10 - G.I. Jane-Fire Down Below 5, 7:30, 10

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Inside

Boomer's back with a bang
Page 18

Scharf to continue as Israel coach
Page 17

Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lavie

FIFA head wants 'Palestine' - Israel friendly

TOKYO (Reuters) - FIFA is trying to set up a friendly match between "Palestine" and Israel in New York, FIFA president Joao Havelange said yesterday.

Havelange, said at a news conference he is holding talks with Palestinian President Yasser Arafat about organizing the game.

"If we succeed we will once more show the world that through football we can reach solutions that neither the politicians, businessmen or diplomats can achieve," he said.

Havelange, flanked at the news conference by UEFA President Lennart Johansson, is on a fact-finding mission ahead of the 2002 World Cup to be co-hosted by Japan and South Korea.

The FIFA President said he hoped North Korea would join South Korea to form a combined team for the 2002 World Cup and that if FIFA's suggestion was accepted he would travel to the North Korean capital, Pyongyang, as soon as possible.

He said he also would like North Korea to share some of the role as a co-host with South Korea.

Havelange already has plans for a trip to North Korea with FIFA vice-presidents in the first half of next year.

Walker scores 29 as Celtics top Pistons

Lakers' Harris notches 500th win as coach

BOSTON (AP) - Antoine Walker scored 29 points, including a key dunk with 22 seconds left, to lift the Boston Celtics to a 90-86 victory over the struggling Detroit Pistons Sunday night.

The win was Boston's sixth in its last seven games and its fourth straight at the Fleet Center. The Celtics didn't win their seventh game last season until January 5.

The Pistons have won only three of their past 12 games. Ron Mercer chipped in with 16 points and Chauncey Billups had 13 points for Boston.

Grant Hill, plagued by early foul trouble, led Detroit with 21 points, including 16 in the second half, and 11 rebounds.

Knicks 104, Grizzlies 84
Charles Oakley scored 12 of his 19 points in the third quarter, before he was ejected, as host New York won its third straight game by more than 20 points.

With 11:06 remaining in the game and the Knicks ahead 85-65, Oakley was ejected after striking Otis Thorpe with open-handed shots to the chest and face. Oakley reacted after being elbowed by Thorpe.

Patrick Ewing scored 19 points in only 28 minutes and his backup Chris Dudley contributed 10 points and 10 rebounds. New York also got help from Allan Houston who scored 14 points and Chris Mills who added 13.

Bulls 103, Kings 88
Michael Jordan scored 33 points, including 12 during Chicago's 23-7 run early in the second quarter, to lead the defending champions to a road win.

Toni Kukoc tied his season high with 18 points and Dennis Rodman had 14 rebounds as the Bulls, who opened the season with four consecutive road losses, won their second straight away from home.

The Bulls had a 21-point lead late in the second quarter, but allowed the Kings to pull within four points in the third period before putting the game away.

Mitch Richmond had 23 points for Sacramento. Carliss Williamson and Olden Polynice added 12 apiece for the Kings. Lakers 119, Clippers 102

In Inglewood, California, Eddie Jones scored 28 points and Kobe Bryant added 24 as the unbeaten Lakers gave Del Harris his 500th victory as an NBA coach.

The Lakers played without Shaquille O'Neal, who is expected to be sidelined at least another week because of a strained abdominal muscle that has bothered him on and off since the start of training camp.

Harris, who has a career record of 500-430, became the 19th coach in league history to reach 500 wins.

The Lakers have won their first 11 games of the season, equaling the sixth-highest start in NBA history. The record of 15 was set by the Washington Capitals in 1948-49 and tied by the Houston Rockets four years ago.

The loss was the ninth straight for the Clippers, who have won just once this season.

NBA Coaching Victories

(Through Nov. 24)

Coaches with 500 or more wins (x-active):	
1. x-Lenny Wilkens	1,081
2. Red Auerbach	938
3. Dick Motta	935
4. x-Bill Fitch	928
5. x-Pat Riley	867
6. Jack Ramsay	864
7. Don Nelson	851
8. Cotton Fitzsimmons	832
9. Gene Shue	784
10. John MacLeod	707
11. Red Holzman	696
12. Doug Moe	628
13. x-Larry Brown	627
14. x-Jerry Sloan	583
15. x-Chuck Daly	572
16. Al Attles	557
17. K.C. Jones	522
18. x-Mike Fratello	509
19. x-Del Harris	500

For scores and standings, see Page 18



HUSTLE - Clippers' Maurice Taylor gains control of a loose ball, keeping it out of reach of Lakers' Sean Rooks in Sunday's action. The Lakers won the LA derby, 119-102. (Reuters)

Novotna ends year with a blow for the older generation

By BILL BERKROT

NEW YORK (Reuters) - At the end of a women's tennis year dominated by a 16-year-old, Jana Novotna struck a blow for the older generation.

Novotna, playing what she considers her best tennis at the advanced tennis age of 29, concluded the year by picking up the biggest title of her career.

"I really wanted to win this title very much because I felt like I was playing the best tennis of my life and I wanted to do it until the end," said Novotna after beating 22-year-old Mary Pierce 7-6 6-2 6-3 Sunday to add the Chase Championships singles title to the doubles crown she won the night before with Lindsay Davenport.

To be sure, the year belonged to Swiss sensation Martina Hingis, who claimed her third Grand Slam title of the year at the US Open before her 17th birthday.

The world No. 1 finished the year with 12 singles titles - twice as many as Davenport who was second with six - and earned a record of nearly \$3.5 million in prize money.

The one Grand Slam title to elude Hingis this year was claimed by Croatian Iva Majoli, who was 19 at the time.

And charismatic teen-agers like US Open runner-up Venus Williams, Croatian newcomer Mirjana Lucic and Russian Anna Kournikova all grabbed a share of the spotlight in 1997 and all are strong candidates for the elite 16-player season finale in years to come.

"We have been waiting for this moment for a long time, where we see the changing in the generation," Novotna said, while reveling in her success.

"It's a very nice contrast to see players who are experienced, who play a different style of tennis than the younger ones do," added one of the few pure serve and volleyers left in the women's game.

"Women's tennis needed a boost and we needed the young players, and I'm glad we have them. It makes it interesting for the players and for everybody else."

Just when it seemed like the game was suffering from a lack of depth and competition, with Hingis winning virtually everything in sight, the Swiss phenom suffered three of her five defeats late in the year, leaving the competition feeling like she can be beaten.



VINTAGE VICTORY - Jana Novotna celebrates after winning in New York yesterday. (Reuters)

"Well of course I wanted to win this tournament also," admitted Hingis, who said her goal for next year is to add the missing French Open title to her Grand Slam resume.

In addition to Hingis's surprise defeat by an inspired resurgent Pierce in the quarter-finals, the Chase Championships provided several scintillating matches and results that defied prediction.

France's Nathalie Tauziat ousted both fourth seed Armanda Coetzer and sixth seed Majoli, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario found her missing game in time to edge three-time champion Monica Seles in a three-set thriller, and Mary Joe Fernandez bounced red hot third seed Davenport in another nailbiter.

The second seeded Novotna, who will finish the year ranked second in the world, was the only one of the top six seeds to make it to the semi-finals.

And next year's number one contender by the name of Steffi Graf, 28, should be recovered from the knee surgery that took her out of the picture much of the year. The German superstar, who missed both Wimbledon and

the US Open, should be back in time to challenge Hingis at the Australian Open in January.

Novotna, whose greatest liability has always been mental, will take soaring confidence into the 1998 season after serving her way to an emphatic victory Sunday.

She gave all the credit for her recent success to her coach, former tour player Hana Mandlikova.

"She really brought me to another level. She made me a better player and she made me a champion," said Novotna, who finished the year with four singles titles and about \$1.8 million in prize money.

"She was a great champion herself and she simply taught me how to be one. There's no question about it," said Novotna, who broke down in tears while thanking Mandlikova after her victory in the event she called "like a fifth Grand Slam."

The win also seemed to help Novotna make peace with her history of near misses in major finals, including her notorious collapse in the 1993 Wimbledon final against Graf, which began the Czech's unfortunate reputation as a choker.

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